



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

Approved for use through 09/30/2000, OMB 0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

PTO/SB/21 (6-98)

#2
IDS
JB
5-1-00

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

94

Application Number

09/473,323

Filing Date

December 28, 1999

First Named Inventor

Maini et al.

Group Art Unit

3673

Examiner Name

unknown

Attorney Docket Number

21964-P002US

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
Remarks		

TC 3600 MAIL ROOM
APR 27 2000

RECEIVED

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Robert C. Shaddox Winstead Sechrest & Minick P.C., 910 Travis, Suite 2400, Houston, Texas 77002-5895
Signature	
Date	4/18/00

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: **04/19/2000**

Typed or printed name **MARY STACEY LUKASIK**

Signature **Mary Stacey Lukasik** Date **04/19/2000**

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
21964-P002US

PATENT
APPLICATION NO. 09/473,323

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Maini et al.

Serial No.: 09/473,323

Filing Date: December 28, 1999

Art Unit: 3673

Title: TAUT MOORING SYSTEM
FOR JACK-UP TYPE
MOBILE OFFSHORE
PLatforms

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, and MPEP 609, Applicant submits herewith copies of the patents and other documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 "Information Disclosure Citation."

PATENTS

<u>U.S. Patent Document</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Date of Publication</u>
5,906,457	Choate et al.	May 25, 1999
5,061,131	Petty et al.	October 29, 1991
4,818,146	Fontenot	April 4, 1989
4,797,033	Pollack	January 10, 1989
4,710,061	Blair et al.	December 1, 1987
4,640,647	Blair et al.	February 3, 1987
4,378,178	Roach	March 29, 1983

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below.

Mary Sharon Lubin
Signature
MARY SHARON LUBIN
Printed
April 19, 2000
Date

RECEIVED
APR 27 2000
3600 MAIL ROOM

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
21964-P002US

PATENT
APPLICATION NO. 09/473,323

U.S. Patent Document

3,515,084

Applicant

Holmes

Date of Publication

June 2, 1970

FOREIGN PATENTS

Foreign Patent Document No.

NONE

Inventor

Publication Date

OTHER DOCUMENTS

Author

Title

Publication

Date

Pages

NONE

REMARKS

Consideration by the Examiner of each of the documents listed herein and on Form PTO-1449 is respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully requests that a copy of PTO-1449, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with the next Official Communication.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made. 37 CFR § 1.97(g). Furthermore, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, prior art, analogous art, or material to patentability of this

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
21964-P002US

PATENT
APPLICATION NO. 09/473,323

application, but the information has been cited to make it clear beyond all doubt that Applicant's duty of disclosure has been complied with. 37 CFR § 1.97(h).

Applicant hereby submits that the claims of Applicant's above-referenced patent application are patentably distinguishable from these references.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action.

It is believed that no fees are due; however, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized to charge any fees relating to this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.17 to Deposit Account No 23-2426 of WINSTEAD SECHREST & MINICK P.C.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4/18/00



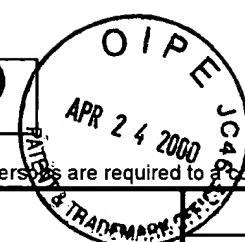
Robert C. Shaddox, Registration No. 34,011

WINSTEAD SECHREST & MINICK P.C.
910 Travis, Suite 2400
Houston, Texas 77002-5895
Telephone: 713/650-2764
Facsimile: 713/650-2400

ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT

::ODMA\PCDOCS\HOUSTON_1\426487\2
640:21964-P002US

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →



PTO/SB/08B (10-96)

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Selection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 2

Complet if Known

Application Number	09/473,323
Filing Date	December 28, 1999
First Named Inventor	Ramesh Maini
Group Art Unit	3673
Examiner Name	unknown
Attorney Docket Number	21964-P002US

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

+ *EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Unique citation designation number. 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.